Message Text

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42.

ACTION EUR-25

INFO OCT-01 PA-04 PRS-01 CIAE-00 INR-10 NSAE-00 RSC-01

CU-04 ISO-00 DRC-01 H-03 EURE-00 /050 W

----- 043545

P 081606Z JAN 74

FM AMEMBASSY WARSAW

TO USINFO WASHDC PRIORITY

INFO SECSTATE WASHDC 7177

AMEMBASSY BUCHAREST PRIORITY

AMEMBASSY BELGRADE

AMCONSUL MUNICH

UNCLAS WARSAW 0101

EO. 11652: N/A

TAGS: SCUL, PL

SUBJECT: WESTERN ART EXHIBIT OPENING A BIG SUCESS

FOR: IEE/ROCHOW PASS IBS POLISH SERVICE WOZNICKI

PASS COPY TO MARCHAL LYNAM, CODEL JIM WRIGHTS OFFICE PHONE TO JACK BUTLER, EDITOR OR FORT WORTH TEXAS, STAR TELEGRAM

1. WARSAW, JANUARY 8, 1974. IT IS ALMOST COMMONPLACE AMONG AMERICANS TO SAY THAT TEXANS THINK AND ACT BIG, BUT TODAY'S GALA OPENING AT THE WARSAW NATIONAL MUSEUM PROVED THAT POLES TOO CAN AND DO SHARE THAT FAMOUS TEXAS TRAIT. OVER 1200 PERSONS, ACCORDING TO MUSEUM DIRECTOR PROFESSOR STANISLAW LORENTZ, JAMMED THE CENTRAL HALL OF WARSAW'S PRESTIGIOUS NATIONAL MUSEUM FOR THE OPENING CEREMONIES OF THE "WESTERN ART" EXHIBITION.

2. THE CREAM OF WARSAW INTELLECTUAL LIFE, INCLUDING VICE MINISTER OF CULTURE ALEKSANDER SYCZEWSKI, UNCLASSIFIED

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*AGE 02 WARSAW 00101 081701Z

HIGH RANKING MINISTRY OF FOREIGN AFFAIRS OFFICAILS,

JOURNALISTS, WRITERS, CRITICS, AND DIPLOMATS, INTER-RUPTED TEXAS CONGRESSMAN JAMES C. WRIGHT JR. 'S DRAM MATIC OPENING SPEECH REPEATEDLY. CL ARLY, THERE WAS AN AIR OF EXCITEMENT ABOUT HIS ART OPENING WHICH DISTINGUEISHED IT FROM ANY OTHER HELD IN WARSAW IN REC*NT YEARS

3. CONGRESSMAN WRIGHT RECEIVED A NEAR OVATION WHEN HE SAID OUOTE IT IS FULLY APPROPRIATE IN MANY WAYS* THAT THIS EXHIBITION OF ORIGINAL 19TH AND 20TH CENTURY PAINTING. THE FIRST OF ITS KIND EVER SHOWN IN POLAND, SHOULD BE HELD HERE AT THE P*ESTIGIOUS NATIONAL MUSEUM IN THIS HISTORIC CITY. THE CITY OF WARSAW, AS ALL MEN KNOW, SYMBOLIZES THROUGH ITS VERY HISTORY THE INDOMITABLE SPIRIT OF MAN. TO ALL THE WORLD THIS CAPITAL CITY EPITOMIZED THE ENDURING STRENGTH OF MEN WHO WOULD RATHER DIE ON THEIR FEET THAN LIVE ON THEIR KNEES UNQUOTE. CONGRESSMAN WRIGHT CONTINUED QUOTE PERHAPS IT IS THE APPRECIATION OF THIS VERY SPIRIT. SYMOBLICALLY REPRESENTED BY THIS JUSTLY FAMOUS MUSEUM AND NATIONAL COLLECTION, THAT MOST OF ALL MAKES TODAY'S OPENING UNIQUELY SIGNIFI-CANT. FOR IN A VERY REAL WAY, THIS EXHIBIT IS THE CULTURAL REPRESENTATION OF A SIMILAR BUT SLIGHTLY DIFFERENT EXPRESSION OF THE SAME INDOMITABLE CHARAC-TER OF MAN WHO BRAVED THE RAW AND PRIMITIVE DANGERS OF A VAST UNKNOWN TERRITORY, WITH NOT MUCH MORE THAN BARE HANDS AND *N INVINCIBLE WILL TO CIVILIZ* A WILDERNESS UNQUOTE.

4. THE DISTINGUISHED AMERICAN CONGRESSMAN BROUGHT ALL HIS IMPRESSIVE POWER AS A SPEAKER TO BEAR WHEN HE CONCLUDED HIS REMARKS SAYING QUOTE THE PRESENCE OF THIS EXHIBITION IN WARSAW TODAY ALSO DEMONSTRATES A GROWING MUTUAL AWARENESS ON THE PART OF THE PEOPLES OF OUR TWO COUNTRIES FOR THE RESPECTIVE NATIONAL CULTURE OF THE OTHER. THIS FACT ALONE GIVES RISE TO FEELINGS OF GREAT PRIDE AND SATISFACTION OF MYSELF AND MY COUNTRYMEN UNQUOTE.

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5. THE WARMLY APPLAUDED REMARKS OF CONGRESSMAN WRIGHT WERE NOT THE ONLY MOMENTS OF EXCITEMENT AT THE OPENING. U.S. AMBASSADOR TO POLAND, RICHARD T. DAVIES, ALSO FOCUSED THE AUDIENCE'S ATTENTION ON THE ROLE PLAYED IN ORGANIZING THIS VERY IMPRESSIVE EXHIBITION OF PAINTINGS AND ARTIFACTS BY THE AMON C. CARTER MUSEUM OF FORT WORTH, UNDER THE VERY ABLE DIRECTION OF MITCHELL C. WILDER AND HIS STAFF. THE AMERICAN AMBASSADOR ALSO SINGLED OUT THE CONTRIBU-

TIONS OF THE 16 OTHER MUSEUMS AND PRIVATE COLLECTORS WHO HAVE LOANED ART WORKS AND ARTIFACTS TO MAKE THIS EXHIBIT TRULY REPRESENTATIVE OF THE BEST IN WESTERN ART.

6. NATIONAL MUSEUM DIRECTOR STANISLAW LORENTZ SAID QUOTE THIS EXHIBITION IS GOING TO BE OF VERY GREAT INTEREST TO THE PEOPLE OF POLAND, AND JUSTLY SO. THEY KNOW SOMETHING OF THE AMERICAN WEST AND THE QUALITY OF THIS EXHIBIT IS OUTSTANDING. I CANNOT REMEMBER A MORE SUCCESSFUL OPENING OF ANY EXHIBIT HERE. UNQUOTE.DAVIES

NOTE BY OC/T: NOT PASSED ABOVE ADDRESSEES.

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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X Capture Date: 01 JAN 1994 Channel Indicators: n/a

Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED Concepts: ARTS, CULTURAL EXHIBITS

Control Number: n/a Copy: SINGLE Draft Date: 08 JAN 1974 Decaption Date: 01 JAN 1960 Decaption Note: Disposition Action: n/a Disposition Approved on Date: Disposition Authority: n/a Disposition Case Number: n/a

Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment:
Disposition Date: 01 JAN 1960
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:

Document Number: 1974WARSAW00101 Document Source: CORE Document Unique ID: 00

Drafter: n/a Enclosure: n/a Executive Order: N/A Errors: N/A Film Number: n/a From: WARSAW

Handling Restrictions: n/a

Image Path:

Legacy Key: link1974/newtext/t19740155/aaaabzur.tel Line Count: 129 Locator: TEXT ON-LINE Office: ACTION EUR

Original Classification: UNCLASSIFIED Original Handling Restrictions: n/a Original Previous Classification: n/a Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a

Page Count: 3

Previous Channel Indicators: Previous Classification: n/a Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a Reference: n/a

Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED Review Authority: shawdg

Review Comment: n/a Review Content Flags: Review Date: 27 FEB 2002 **Review Event:**

Review Exemptions: n/a
Review History: RELEASED <27 FEB 2002 by elbezefj>; APPROVED <19-Nov-2002 by shawdg>

Review Markings:

Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 30 JUN 2005

Review Media Identifier: Review Referrals: n/a Review Release Date: n/a Review Release Event: n/a **Review Transfer Date:** Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a

Secure: OPEN Status: NATIVE

Subject: WESTERN ART EXHIBIT OPENING A BIG SUCESS FOR: IEE/ROCHOW PASS IBS POLISH SERVICE

TAGS: SCUL, PL

To: n/a

Type: TE

Markings: Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 30 JUN 2005